# May Lee

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*For the video game character of the same name, see May Lee (King of Fighters). For the English painter, see May Bridges Lee.*

**May Lee** (born March 28, 1966) is the host of STAR TV's *The May Lee Show*. A second generation Korean American, Lee faced gender discrimination and anti-Asian bias early in her career, and spent the 1980s moving between local broadcasters. However, she reached a turning point in 1995, when she joined CNN; she first worked as a correspondent in Tokyo and Hong Kong, and later became the network's first female anchor of Korean descent.[1][2]

Following her success at CNN, Lee returned to the United States in 1999, where she hosted the talk show *Pure Oxygen* on The Oxygen Network, and also worked for other major broadcasters including ABC and NBC.[2]

In 2004, Lee returned to the Asia-Pacific region as an anchor for *The Asia Wall Street Journal*, CNBC's Asian financial news program, and then co-anchored *CNBC Tonight* with Teymoor Nabili until December 2005.[*citation needed*] Though she initially worried that as she aged, her career opportunities would decrease, she stated that her popular reception had improved due to her "experience and flexibility".[2][3]

In 2007, inspired by the economic and social changes she had seen in her five years away from Asia, she launched *The May Lee Show*, an English-language talk show modelled on *The Oprah Winfrey Show* and aimed specifically at Asian women. STAR TV placed great importance on the promotion of the new show, giving it a prime time slot right after the semi-final of *American Idol*, before moving it to the Sunday 8 P.M. slot two weeks later. The program discusses both soft issues such as fashion and celebrities, as well as social problems such as divorce, infidelity, and child trafficking; guests on the first episode included American actress Joan Chen, Australian singer Olivia Newton-John, and New Zealand chef Bobby Chinn.[2][4]

Lee was appointed the LA-based correspondent for CCTV-America in December 2014.

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